

6-3545/a

13 MAY 1961

Honorable Henry Dworshak
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Dworshak:

STAT This is in response to your letter regarding a report
by that the USSR has a nuclear powered aircraft.

We have previously studied this and other reports of the same type and determined that the characteristics attributed to this nuclear aircraft are far beyond the technical capabilities of the Soviet aircraft and nuclear industries. The reported cruising speed of 2500 miles per hour would mean that the air entering the aircraft would be heated by compression to about 1100° F. Further, heating of this air to provide thrust for propulsion would raise the temperature far beyond the temperature limits of the nuclear engine's structural material.

If further information is desired, please let us know.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	DD/I - 354 Admin	RAG/b	5/9/61
3	IG - 231 Admin <i>(out of town until Wed.)</i>	LBN	20 May
2	DDCI - 203 Admin <i>W</i>		
4	DCI - 221 Admin		
5			
6			
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Remarks: <p style="text-align: center;">Letter to be hand carried by Legislative Counsel after signature by DCI.</p>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
OGC/LC - 221 East			8 May 61
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	

STAT

Approved For Release 2003/05/05 : CIA-RDP80B01676R000700200051-9

Approved For Release 2003/05/05 : CIA-RDP80B01676R000700200051-9

4 MAY 1961

BRIEF FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Letter from Senator Henry Dworshak, dated 1 May 1961

1. Enclosed for your signature is a reply to a letter from Senator Dworshak concerning a report that the USSR has a nuclear powered aircraft.

2. A letter from Senator Dworshak requested a report concerning this development described in a UPI dispatch printed in the Idaho newspapers. The attached reply states that the flight characteristics of the reported nuclear aircraft are beyond the technical capabilities of the Soviet aircraft and nuclear industries and that the STAT originator of this report, is a well-known fabricator of sensational intelligence reports.

3. Recommend that you sign the attached reply.

STAT
HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

Enclosure: Letter to Senator Henry Dworshak

STAT ~~community. [redacted] has long been judged to be a perennial~~
~~fabricator of sensational reports.~~

Sincerely,

Allen V. Dulles
Director

ORIGINATED BY: [redacted]

for Chief, Nuclear Energy Division/OSI

47 May 1961 STAT
Date

COMMENTS:

STAT [redacted]

Assistant Director/Scientific Intelligence

4 MAY 1961

Date

Rewritten by John S. Warner

Legislative Counsel

8 May 1961

Date

STAT [redacted]

Deputy Director/Intelligence

8 MAY 1961

Date

OSI/NED/NSA [redacted] jag [redacted]
Distribution:

(4 May 1961)

STAT

Orig. & 1 - addressee
1 - DCI
1 - ADCI

1 - Leg. Counsel
1 - Exec. Sec.
2 - AD/BI

4 - NED/OSI

Letter to Honorable Henry Dworshak, United States Senate

ORIGINATED BY:

[Redacted]
Chief, Nuclear Energy Division/OSI

4 May 1961 **STAT**
Date

CONCURRENCES:

/s/ M. Scoville, Jr.
Assistant Director/Scientific Intelligence

4 May 1961
Date

Rewritten by John S. Warner
Legislative Counsel

4 May 1961

[Redacted]
Deputy Director/Intelligence

8 MAY 1961
Date

OSI/NED/P&P/[Redacted]:jag/[Redacted] (4 May 1961)
Rewritten: OGC/LC:JSW:mks/[Redacted] (8 May 1961)

STAT
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Distribution:

○ & 1 - Addressee (Hand carry by Leg. C.)

- 1 - DCI**
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- 2 - NED/OSI**
- 1 - Legislative Counsel w/basic**

Honorable Henry Stanshek
United States Senate
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Senator Stanshek:

This is in response to your letter regarding a report by [] that the USSR has a nuclear powered aircraft.

We have previously studied this and other reports of the same type and determined that the characteristics attributed to this nuclear aircraft are far beyond the technical capabilities of the Soviet aircraft and nuclear industries. For example, if the plane flew at the reported maximum speed of 3500 miles per hour, the air entering the aircraft would be heated by compression to about 2100° F. Thus the temperature of the air at the intake of the nuclear engine would be at the maximum temperature limit of the engine's structural materials and further heating for propulsion could not be introduced without causing a well-down of the engine.

This report by [] is one of the many that he has distributed concerning various subjects to the intelligence

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Revised